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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/702,737	11/01/2000	Lester F. Ludwig	VCOR-001/20US	3630

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EXAMINER

DINH, DUNG C

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2152

DATE MAILED: 07/01/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/702,737

Applicant(s)

LUDWIG ET AL.

Examiner

Dung Dinh

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 21 March 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 21-43 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 21-43 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

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DETAILED ACTION

A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 3/21/2005 has been entered.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed 3/21/2005 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive in view of the new ground of rejection below.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

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Claims 21-43 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Baumgartner et al. US patent 5,195,086 and further in view of Marshak "BeyondMail for Windows", Rangan et al. "Software Architecture for Integration of Video Services in the Etherphone System", and IBM TDB0992 "Public Nicknames in OS/2 Office Address Book".

As per claim 21, Baumgartner teaches a teleconferencing essentially as claimed, comprising:

a plurality of video display [inherent in fig.1 workstation A, B, & C]; having audio capture and reproduction capabilities [col.15 lines 5-15];

at least a communication path [fig.1];

wherein the system is configured to display a directory [fig.18]; and

to initiate collaboration upon selecting one or more participants from the display and establish communication with each selected participant [col.18 lines 51 col. 19 lines 13].

Baumgartner does not specifically disclose first and second directory in which the second directory is a subset of the first directory. Marshak discloses that it is known in the collaborative art to provide global and private directories (address books - see page 4 "Managing address book"). It would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art to

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provide a private second directory which is a subset of the global directory because it would have enable the user to more efficiently group and identify the participants.

Marshak does not specifically disclose the second (private) directory is made by copying fewer than all the entries from the first (public) directory. However the feature of populating a private address book with entries from the public address book is well known in the art at the time of the invention. In similar field of computerized collaboration, The IBM TDB0992 discloses an Office directory structure two address books: a public address book, which an administrator maintains and a personal address book, which is a user private address book. The IBM TDB0992 further discloses that a user may populate the private address book with entry from the public address book [see page 2 2nd full paragraph lines 1-2 and 9-12]. Hence, it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art to enable the user to 'copy' entries from the public (first) address book to the private address book because it would have ease the burden on the user from manually entering data for those entries the user wished to place into his private address book.

Baumgartner does not specifically disclose usage of video or video captured capabilities, and the directory including

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video-enabled participants. Rangan teaches a system for video/audio conferencing having video capture capabilities for multimedia conferencing. It would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art to have video capabilities with Baumgartner system because it would have enhanced the collaborative interactions among the users. Marshak discloses that the directory can include any type of information to provide complete "rolodex-like" functionality. It would have been obvious, in the system as modified, to provide in the directory capabilities of the participants (e.g. video-enabled, audio-enabled, data-enabled, etc.) because it would have enabled a user to be informed about the capabilities of other potential participants.

As per claim 22, Baumgartner teaches using icon and text [see fig.19].

AS per claim 23, Rangan teaches selecting communication types [p.1397 col.2]. Baumgartner teaches using GUI for selecting participant and collaboration applications. Hence, it is apparent the system as modified would have GUI means for selecting the communication type. It would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art to enable the participant

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to select the conferencing type because it would enable efficient and flexible use of the conferencing system.

As per claim 24, the communication types provided would have been a matter of design choice because it is dependent upon the capabilities of the conferencing system at hand. The method of providing iconic participants directory method would operate essentially the same way regardless of what communication types is available. One of ordinary skill in the art would have known to provide means for the participant to select any communication type available in the system so as to enable the participants to make full use of the conferencing services.

As per claim 25, Baumgartner teaches graphic user interface for selecting the participants.

As per claim 26, Baumgartner teaches a default collaboration type upon selecting of a participant [col.19 lines 21-22 'phone'].

As per claim 27, Baumgartner teaches adding new participant [col.22 lines 56+]

As per claim 28, Rangan teaches reproducing audio/video for another participant [p. 1402 col.2 "video document"].

As per claim 29, the references do not specifically disclose hot key for selecting a participant. It is well known in the art to provide hot key for quick access too menu and

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other application functions. Hence, it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art to provide a hot key to select a participant because it would have enable to use to have quick, convenient access to the directory

Claims 30-41 are rejected under similar rationales as for claims 21-29 above.


As per Claims 42 and 43, the IBM TDB0992 discloses using drag and drop operating to add entries to the private address book [page 2 2nd paragraph lines 10-12].

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Dung Dinh whose telephone number is (571) 272-3943. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 7:00 AM - 3:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Glenton Burgess can be reached at (571) 272-3949.

The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Dung C. Dinh
Primary Examiner